

# THE CHURCHES AND TO-HOUSE SERVICES

## Shipwrecked on Melita

Sermon by  
REV. FLOYD W. TOMKINS.  
Text: Acts 27: 38, 41 and 28: 1-10.

We have here one of the most telling and exciting pictures of a shipwreck to be found in all historical writings. Of course, this is a "fictitious" ship, in which St. Paul was journeying to Rome, was not like our modern ships, and our seamen of these latter days would have quite scorned the vessel whose wreck is here described. At the same time it was a good-sized craft, and was accustomed to pretty rough seas on the Mediterranean, and the sailors for their part were shrewd men, so we may read the story as one not only of actual experience, but of heroic contest with the elements.

It was a great test for Paul and his companions, as well as for the sailors. Two weeks drifting about in a leaking vessel upon a sea which is noted still for its storms, and during the winter weather, when the storms were more severe, must have tried all of the men physically, and must have tried Paul especially, because he doubtless realized that God was calling him to work in Rome, and if it looked as though he would never reach Rome, what a splendid thing it is to be tested in this way. Sometimes, when everything seems to be going to pieces, and all our plans are knocked down, we are apt to lose heart. We should remember, however, that it is at such times as these that God is gloriously working out His purpose for us, and that out of the very severity of our troubles there will come a final and more beautiful life.

**HOW PAUL TOOK COMMAND OF SHIP**  
We are impressed very forcibly by the way in which Paul practically took command of the ship. The sailors, of course, were weakened through fear, and the commander himself, as well as the soldiers, was "dismayed." Then came the splendid heroism of a strong man, who by his faith in God, and although he was nominally a prisoner, took control. They listened to him and did as he suggested.

Christian courage is the grandest power in the world to lead men to victory. Courage without Christianity has no sure foundation. Christianity without courage is hardly a true following of Christ. But the man who stands up and declares that he knows that God will take care of his people, that that righteous stock of life is the supreme end to be reached, will always have a following and will draw all men to him sooner or later. It is not the man who tells us that he believes in his own sake who generally succeeds, but it is the man who comes to the front in time of necessity. He has a following.

Driven to Melita, where there was nothing, but a flat beach, they saw the absolute necessity of trying to bring the vessel somehow to land, even if it was to be a perilous venture. The men holding the ropes and made a drive for the shore. But they were caught by a stream of water rising from two different sources which made a kind of whirlpool, and they could not steer or make a straight drive to the shore. The vessel forced itself into the ground, the force striking fast and the stern being broken by the tremendous violence of the waves.

**PAUL ONLY CALM MAN**  
**IN HOUR OF DANGER**  
What a moment of uncertainty and agony it must have been. They knew the vessel was wrecked, and it looked as if they themselves could never be saved. Paul only was calm, even when the soldiers wanted to kill the prisoners. He was calm, even when the centurion having ordered the soldiers had evidently been impressed by Paul, and would not listen to the soldiers' counsel, but commanded them to get the prisoners to land. He could not see any danger, and not one was lost. This reminds me a little of the way in which we shall land our heavenly voyage. Our voyage is over. It seems tempestuous, as we go our way, but finally we shall enter in, one way or another, and find the peaceful haven which we have sought.

There is a beautiful hymn, said to have been written in the nineteenth century, which I love to read and sing. I know of no other hymn so fitting as a cry of victory at a Christian's funeral. Here is one verse of it:  
Safe home, safe home in port,  
Torn sails, provision short,  
And only one wreck  
But O, the joy upon the shore,  
To tell our voyage o'er,  
What a joy to tell when we enter at last the harbor of peace and the voyage of life is over!

**ON PAUL'S HAND**  
But their troubles were by no means ended. The barbarous people of the island welcomed them, kindling a fire, and supplied the wet and hungry soldiers with food. Paul took a hand in gathering the sticks for the fire, and a viper came out of the heat and fastened on his hand. At first the barbarians thought he was a murderer, whom the gods were thus punishing; but when he shook off the serpent and no harm came to him, they changed their minds and said that he himself was a god. How typical that is of human judgment, is it not?

First, we form bitter and cruel conclusions concerning the character and then, under circumstances of change, we are around and go to the other extreme. Human nature in its action is very much like the pendulum of a clock. The true man is the one who sustains judgment, who will not jump at conclusions and who has the spirit of faith running through all his thoughts. We must not, however, think from this chance of opinion on the part of the barbarians of Melita that God has anything to do with human experiences. There is a tendency to-day, very strongly manifested, even in Christian circles, to deny that God has anything to do with sickness or death or accident. Men claim that nature rules all things, and that God does not interfere.

Hence they think it is foolish to pray when you are sick, or to ask God to send rain when it is dry, or to ask for protection on a sea voyage. Let us remember that God, who has Himself created the laws of nature, is supreme and can alter as he will the laws which He has made. Christ declared that very positively, both by His miracles and in His teachings. We may recently, but surely, say that God had something to do with this serpent fastening itself upon Paul's hand. Here was a token to the barbarians that God took care of His children; and it was also a token to the soldiers and sailors that the trust they had shown in Paul was not misplaced. When our eyes are open, we are constantly finding tokens from God and hearing messages spoken for our comfort and encouragement.

Paul immediately went to work on this island, though he had been shipwrecked and must have been worn out. Received into the house of Publius, he found that his host's father was sick and he at once healed him. And then they came from all over the island, bringing their sick and suffering ones to the apostle, and they were all healed. It is a great thing to find work to do, no matter where we are, or what the circumstances of our life may be. Most people would have been so glad to have gotten to land that they would have slept away their fatigue and rested, and not so crowded. Not so with Paul, and not so with us.

**CALMLY AWAITED**  
In the summer, while we are away on our vacations, as well as in the winter when we are at home, on our beds when we are sick, as well as when we are active and well, God has a work for us to do. If we will only look for it. And we find happiness in an unceasing service which enables us to conquer fear and sorrow and enter into that deep joy which God grants to those who serve Him.

Just one other lesson. Paul had appealed to Caesar and was being sent to Rome. It was a long journey. One may well imagine that he was full of anticipation and possibly of apprehension, wondering what would come to him at Rome, and what work God had for him to do there. Yet we find no sign of impatience. Calmly he went along, facing whatever issue might come, ready to do God's will at any moment and knowing that God knew what it was best for him to do. Oh, if we could only be patient! Sometimes the way seems long and tedious. We long for faith and hope and courage. Can we not find all along the way proofs of God's care and perhaps explanations for any apparent delay? Can we not see in the very obstacles which meet us proofs of our Father's love and hear a call to service?

Dear Lord, I thank Thee for the storms of life. They are severe, but they bring me nearer to Thee, and they prove to me Thy constant care. Help me to be calm. Open mine eyes that I may see how Thou art working Thine own blessed will, and so preparing a blessing for me. And help me to serve Thee wherever I may be. May my sorrows teach me to sympathize with others, and may my own need make me eager to meet the needs of others. And bring me at last, dear Father, to the haven of rest and peace. For Thine own sake, Amen.

## LOCAL CHURCH NOTICES

### EPISCOPAL

**St. Paul's**—Rev. E. Valentine Lee, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening. The choir will sing selections from Rossini's "Stabat Mater" at the evening service.

**All Saints**—Rev. J. Y. Downman, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this afternoon. Services will be held in the church during Lent every Wednesday evening, Friday morning and Saturday afternoon.

**St. James**—Rev. G. Frederick Peter, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening. Rev. William Cabell Brown, D. D., Bishop Coadjutor of Virginia, at 8:15 o'clock this evening.

**Monumental**—Rev. James W. Morris, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this afternoon.

**Holy Comforter**—Rev. William E. Cox, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning on "The True Path" and at 8 o'clock this evening on "Repentance." Holy communion will be administered at 7:30 o'clock this morning.

**St. Thomas**—Rev. R. A. Gibson, D. D., Bishop of Virginia, will administer the rite of confirmation at 11 o'clock this morning. An offering will be taken for the Virginia Education Society. Rev. F. E. Warren, the pastor, will preach at 8 o'clock this evening.

**St. Mark's**—Rev. G. MacLaren Bryden, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening. A half-hour service will be held in the church at 7:15 o'clock every morning during Lent.

**St. Andrew's**—Rev. J. Francis Riddle, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening. Lenten services will be held in the church at 8 o'clock Wednesday and Friday evenings and at 8 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

**Holy Trinity**—Rev. J. Gravatt, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening.

**Christ Church**—Rev. Charles W. Synnor, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening. Lenten services will be held in the church at 8 o'clock Wednesday and Friday evenings and at 8 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

**Holy Trinity**—Rev. J. Gravatt, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening.

### BAPTIST

**First**—Rev. T. R. Ray, D. D., will preach at 11 o'clock this morning on account of the absence of the pastor, Rev. George W. McDaniel, D. D. Instead of a sermon at the service at 8 o'clock this evening, the choir will sing the oratorio, "The Prodigal Son," by Sullivan.

**Second**—Rev. T. Clagett Skinner, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning on "The Place of Religion in the Pilgrim's Way," and at 8 o'clock this evening on "The Man Who Might Have Been." The music at the evening service will include "Gloria in Excelsis" in D (Buck), the choir; "Aldo With Me" (Schnecker), with solos for soprano, tenor and bass, and "Jesus of Nazareth Passeth By," sung by Mrs. W. R. Reinhardt.

**Grace Street**—Rev. William Lockhart Ball, D. D., will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening.

**Grove Avenue**—Rev. Calvin S. Blackwell, D. D., will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening.

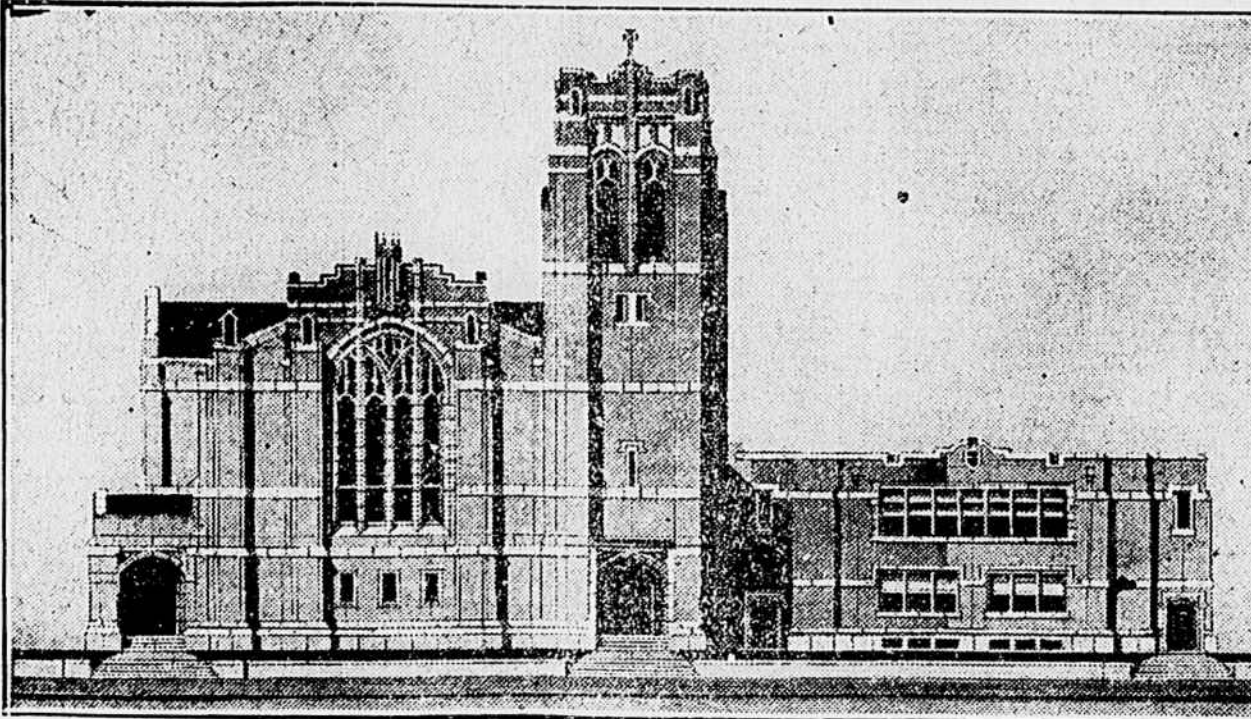
**Immanuel**—Rev. Leland W. Smith, the pastor, will preach this morning on "Prayer a Privilege," and this evening on "The Prayer Life of Jesus."

**Pine Street**—Rev. J. B. Hutson, D. D., the pastor, will preach this morning on "And Such We Are," and this evening on "Serve the Lord With Gladness."

**Northside**—Rev. Perry Mitchell, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning on "The Lost Coin," and at 8 o'clock this evening on "Laudica, the Indifferent Church."

**Leigh Street**—Rev. J. J. Wicker, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning on "The Greatest Joy in the World," and at 8 o'clock this evening on "Doom and Final Judgment."

## Plan for New Home of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church



Modern structure to be erected on Monument Avenue, between Stuart and Lee Monuments.

**Day**—Rev. Lloyd T. Wilson, D. D., will speak at 3 o'clock this afternoon at the dedication of the new Sunday-school building.

**Horton Heights**—Rev. A. B. Ridd, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning on "The Promise of the Father," and at 8 o'clock this evening on "The Freedom of the Soul."

**Pulmon**—Rev. W. Thornburn Clark, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening. The subject of the sermon this evening will be "A Conversion at the Well."

**Houlevard**—Rev. Francis Lee Albright, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening.

**Woodland Heights**—Rev. R. D. White, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening.

**Ginter Park**—Rev. W. R. L. Smith, D. D., will preach at 11 o'clock this morning.

### METHODIST

**Centenary**—Rev. T. A. Shook, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening.

**Park Place**—Rev. William E. Thompson, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning on "Science Says 'Don't Pray'—Let's See," and at 8 o'clock this evening on "Idealism as Taught by John Ruskin."

**Broad Street**—Rev. Fred H. Chennault, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning on "The First Essential of a Revival," Rev. R. H. Potts, D. D., presiding elder of the Richmond district, will preach at 8 o'clock this evening.

**Monument**—Rev. G. H. Lambeth, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning on "The Naturalness of the Christian Life," and at 8 o'clock this evening on "Where Art Thou?"

**Union Station**—Rev. R. H. Potts, D. D., will preach at 11 o'clock this morning, and Rev. M. S. Colonna, D. D., the pastor, at 8 o'clock this evening. The subject of the evening sermon will be "The Harvest Tide." R. J. Kiker, assistant secretary of the Railroad Young Men's Christian Association, will speak at 8:30 o'clock this morning on "Mountain Peaks in the Life of Daniel." There will be a musical program.

**Laurel Street**—Rev. W. G. Bogue, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening.

**Decatur Street**—Rev. Samuel L. Dunwoody, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning on "Reflected Light," and at 8 o'clock this evening on "Soul Winning—Is It Worth While?"

**Asbury**—Rev. J. O. Babcock, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning on "The Large Life," and at 8 o'clock this evening on "Progress."

**St. Paul's**—Rev. Victor L. Marsh, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning on "God's Approval," and at 8 o'clock this evening on "The Overt Act."

**West End**—Rev. G. W. M. Taylor, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening.

**St. James**—Rev. Raymond Browning, of Lincoln, N. C., will preach at both the morning and evening services, and will preach on revival services at the church for the next two weeks. J. Harry Chamberlain, of Asbury Park, N. J., will conduct the singing. Mr. Browning will preach every evening this week at 8 o'clock.

**Woodland Heights**—Rev. W. Ashbury Christian, D. D., will preach this morning in the absence of the pastor, Rev. A. C. Berryman, by request, Dr. Christian will preach on "A Little Box of Salt." Rev. W. J. Mayhew, D. D., will preach at 8 o'clock this evening.

### PRESBYTERIAN

**First**—Rev. F. T. McDaniel, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening.

**Second**—Rev. Henry Shone Coffin, D. D., pastor of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York City, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning. Dr. Coffin will speak also at the annual meeting of the Huguenot Society, which will be held in the church at 8 o'clock this evening.

**Grace Covenant**—Rev. J. Calvin Stewart, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening.

**Westminster**—Rev. J. Y. Parr, D. D., the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening.

### UNITARIAN

**First**—Rev. Frank Pratt, the pastor, will preach at 11 o'clock this morning

on "The Myth of the Fall of Man," and at 8 o'clock this evening on "Why Unitarians Believe in the Divinity, but Not the Deity, of Jesus."

### LUTHERAN

**St. John's German Evangelical**—Rev. Oscar Guthe, the pastor, will preach in English at 11 o'clock this morning and at 8 o'clock this evening. The morning subject will be "Father, Forgive Them, for They Know Not What They Do." Lenten services will be held in German on Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.

### FRIENDS

**Central Young Men's Christian Association**—A service will be held at 11 o'clock this morning.

### APOSTOLIC CHURCH

**First**—R. G. Pease will preach at 8 o'clock this evening on "The Battle of the Great Day."

### ASSOCIATED BIBLE STUDENTS

**Steff**—Hull—J. A. McDaniel, of Brooklyn, N. Y., will preach at 8 o'clock this afternoon on "Messianic Kingdom, and for What Purpose?"

### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

**First Church of Christ, Scientist**—The regular service will be held at 11 o'clock this morning. The subject will be "Mind."

### SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

**Morris Street Chapel**—Arthur E. Scorn will preach this evening on "Measuring the Temple of God."

### Y. M. C. A.

**Central Building**—Rev. Thomas Semmes, pastor of Friends Memorial Episcopal Church, will speak at the men's meeting at 8:30 o'clock this afternoon on "The Price He Paid." The average attendance at the last eight Sunday afternoon meetings has been the largest on record for twenty years.

**Half-hour study of "The Man Christ Jesus," A. B. Whitmore will speak on "Society First" at the boys' meeting at 8:30 o'clock this afternoon.**

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### WILL CONDUCT REVIVAL

**Atlanta Pastor to Assist Rev. J. C. Stewart, D. D., at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church.**

Rev. Richard Orme Flinn, D. D., pastor of the North Avenue Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Ga., will conduct a series of revival services at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, beginning next Wednesday, February 28, and continuing until March 11.

North Avenue church in Atlanta is one of the largest churches in the Southern Presbyterian Assembly. It has a membership of 1,228, and occupies a building valued at \$125,000. The church makes annual contributions for all purposes of about \$20,000, more than half of which is devoted to benevolent purposes. It supports four or five special representatives in home and foreign mission stations.

Dr. Flinn became pastor of the congregation at its formation, and has since that time been a prominent and successful minister. In 1909, there were 116 members. It is due largely to his efforts that the church now occupies its position of prominence and usefulness.

**Leader of Revival at Grace Covenant Church**



REV. RICHARD ORME FLINN, D. D., Pastor North Avenue Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Ga.

## BIDS FOR NEW CHURCH

**Monument Avenue Home of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, III. The Modern Structure.**

Bids for the construction of the new Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church will be called for within the next two weeks, and the contract will probably be let before April 1. The building committee, of which George Bryan is chairman, placed its approval last week upon the finished plans submitted by architects Ferguson, Calhoun & Wright.

The church will be located on a lot 150x150 feet on the south side of Monument Avenue, between the Stuart and Lee Monuments. Brick and stone will be the material. The architects estimate that the cost will be not less than \$90,000.

Although no date has been set for breaking ground for the new building, it is hoped to have at least the Sunday school department completed by April 1, 1918. There may be a slight delay in finishing the auditorium, and in that case, the Sunday school assembly room will be used for church services. By the terms of a sale made some time ago, the congregation must vacate the old church building at Harrison Street and Park Avenue on April 1, 1918 to the Scottish Rite Masons.

No convenience or improvement known to modern builders will be omitted from the Sunday school department, it is said by those who have examined the plans. The assembly room and most of the class rooms will be on the second floor. A group of rooms in the back of the building on the third floor will be fitted up for Boy Scouts and Campfire Girls. A chapel for outdoor prayer meetings and other smaller services will be located on the first floor, as will be, also, a large parlor, a dining-room and a kitchen in the basement.

The Sunday school assembly room will contain seats for more than 500, and the main auditorium of the church, for about 750.

## WILL RENDER ORATORIO

**Choir of First Baptist Church to Give Selections From Sullivan's "The Prodigal Son" To-Night.**

Selected parts of Sir Arthur Sullivan's oratorio, "The Prodigal Son," will be sung by the choir of the First Baptist Church at 8 o'clock this evening at the musical service. The choir is composed of Mrs. Roy Lee Eldridge, soprano; Mrs. R. J. Jenkins, alto; Miss Sophie Whittemore, tenor; and Marcus Kellerman, baritone. Shepherd Webb is the organist.

The excerpts used will be "There Is Joy Over One Sinner," quartet; "A Certain Man," tenor solo; "My Son, Attend to My Words," baritone solo; "Love Not the World," contralto solo; "The Sacrifices of God," quartet; "Oh That Thou Hadst Heeded," soprano solo; "How Many Saviours," tenor solo; "And He Arose and Came," duet; "Bring Forth the Best Babe," baritone solo; "Oh That Men Would Praise the Lord," quartet; "Come Ye Children," tenor solo; "Thou Lord, Art Our Father," and "Hallelujah," quartet.

## DR. PEABODY TO SPEAK

**Distinguished Harvard Professor to Be at Unitarian Church Next Sunday.**

Dr. Francis G. Peabody, of Harvard University, will be in Richmond this week and will speak next Sunday, both morning and evening, at the Unitarian Church. His subjects will be "The Expansion of Religion" and "The Social Mission of the Modern Church." Dr. Peabody spoke in Richmond several years ago at an educational conference.

It is as the author of "Jesus Christ and the Social Question," that Dr. Peabody is perhaps best known. He has written several other books, including "Mornings in the Chapel," "The Religion of an Educated Man," and "The Approach to the Social Question."

Since 1881 Dr. Peabody has been a professor at Harvard University. He was dean of the Divinity School for several years. He was also a Parkman professor of theology and Plummer professor of Christian morals.

## UNION SERVICES

**Episcopal Churches to Join in Connected Discussion of Church Catechism.**

Union services, in which will join the Episcopal churches of the city, will be held at 8 o'clock each Tuesday evening for the next several weeks. The sermons will form a connected discussion of the church catechism. The list of services and speakers follows:

February 27—All Saints' Church, Rev. Hugh W. Sublett.  
March 6—St. John's Church, Rev. J. Lewis Gibbs.  
March 13—St. Andrew's Church, Rev. James Gibson.  
March 20—St. James Church, Rev. Thomas Semmes.  
March 27—Holy Trinity Church, Rev. E. E. Osgood.

## Speaks on Church History

"The History of the Christian Church Before the Reformation" will be the subject of the address by Rev. O. W. H. Hendermeyer, of Charlottesville, on Tuesday evening at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. The Young Men's Society of the church presents the speaker. There will be no admission charge.

## AUTOGRAPH LETTERS OF FAMOUS PEOPLE BOUGHT FOR CASH

LETTERS OF CRISTOPHER COLUMBUS, STANLEY, GENERAL A. AND PRINCE OF WALES, V. C. ESPECIALLY WANTED. C. MADAGAN, 151 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY.

# SALE! SALE! SALE!

## The Big Walk-Over Clearance Sale Continues

Monday and Tuesday of this week we are going to discontinue our entire line of Ladies' Hosiery, in order to dispose of this stock within the next two days we make this

# 1 Cent Sale

of Ladies' Hosiery, in all standard makes—good colors—good sizes:

25c Hosiery, 2 pairs for . . .	26c
50c Hosiery, 2 pairs for . . .	51c
60c Hosiery, 2 pairs for . . .	61c
75c Hosiery, 2 pairs for . . .	76c
\$1.00 Hosiery, 2 pairs for . . .	\$1.01
\$1.25 Hosiery, 2 pairs for . . .	\$1.26

## Men and Boys' Specials for Monday and Tuesday

Men's House Slippers, \$2 to \$3 values, \$1.00 pair  
Men's and Boys' Sufferers, \$2 to \$3 values, \$1.00 pair

## Watch Our Windows, Something New Every Day

# WALK-OVER BOOT SHOP

6th and Broad Sts.